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EXAMINER	
MEUCCI, MICHAEL D	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2142	

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/851,811	CHEN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael D Meucci	2142	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *24 August 2001*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-45* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-45* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *36* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *09 May 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to under 37 CFR 1.72(b) because it does not comply the 150 word maximum length. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Objections

2. Claim 36 objected to because of the following informalities: Applicant specifies: "said annotated into at least one other language" on lines 1-2 of the claim. Examiner believes applicant meant to specify "said annotated data into at least one other language". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

a. Claim 22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant specifies intersecting image data, surrounding image data, and close-proximity image data, all of which are not defined or limited in the disclosure. It is unclear to the examiner as to what is meant to be specified by these terms. For the purposes of art rejection, it will be presumed that any annotated data added to, adjacent to, or anywhere on the original computer data, overlapping or not, will be considered encompassed by the disclosed terms.

b. Claim 43 recites the limitation " said original computer data " on lines 3 and 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Examiner believes applicant meant to specify "said portion of original computer data". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 23-32, 37- rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Varma et al. (U.S. 6,564,246 B1) hereinafter referred to as Varma.

a. As per claim 23, Varma teaches: identifying a plurality of reception devices... (lines 52-60 of column 5); receiving synchronization data from a controlling one... (lines 15-40 of column 6); providing a portion of original computer data... (lines 20-40 of column 6).

b. As per claims 24 and 25, Varma teaches: step of identifying a plurality of reception devices further comprises... (lines 38-64 of column 8).

c. As per claim 26, Varma teaches: step of receiving synchronization data further comprises receiving... (line 61 of column 2 through line 1 of column 3).

d. As per claim 27, Varma teaches: step of providing said portion of said original computer data further comprises providing... (line 61 of column 2 through line 1 of column 3).

e. As per claim 28, Varma teaches: step of receiving synchronization data further comprises receiving synch button data... (lines 10-14 of column 2 and lines 51-58 of column 3).

f. As per claim 29, Varma teaches: step of receiving synchronization data further comprises receiving annotated data... (lines 48-60 of column 5).

g. As per claim 30, Varma teaches: step of receiving annotated data further comprises selecting... (lines 43-44 of column 1).

h. As per claim 31, Varma teaches: step of providing said portion of original computer data further comprises providing a toolbar... (lines 44-48 of column 9).

i. As per claim 32, Varma teaches: step of providing said portion of original computer data further comprises providing said annotated data... (line 58 of column 7 through line 2 of column 8).

j. As per claim 37, Varma teaches: step of receiving synchronization data further comprises receiving communication data... (lines 61-67 of column 5).

k. As per claim 38, Varma teaches: step of receiving communication data further comprises selecting said communication data... (lines 43-44 of column 1).

l. As per claim 39, Varma teaches: step of providing said original computer data further comprises providing... (Abstract).

m. As per claim 44, Varma teaches: locking application is further adapted to perform... (line 49 of column 7 through line 35 of column 8).

n. As per claim 45, Varma teaches: said annotated parameters include... (line 49 of column 7 through line 35 of column 8).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-8, 11, 14-16, 20-22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Varma, in view of Mendez et al. (U.S. 6,708,221 B1) hereinafter referred to as Mendez.

a. As per claim 1, Varma teaches: a server adapted to communicate with a plurality of reception devices (lines 58-60 of column 5); a synch application, wherein synch application is adapted to receive... (lines 15-40 of column 6); synch application is further adapted to provide... (lines 20-29 of column 6); said portion of said original computer data... (lines 20-40 of column 6).

Varma does not teach: a database for storing original computer data; and synch application connected to said database. However, Mendez discloses: "A

client stores a first set of workspace data, and is coupled via a computer network to a global server. The client may be configured to synchronize portions of the first set of workspace data with the global server, which stores independently modifiable copies of the portions," (Abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to include a database for storing original computer data; and synch application connected to said database. "The synchronization agent operates on the global server and informs the base system whether any of the workspace elements in the second set have been modified. Modified version may then be exchanged so that an updated set of workspace elements may be stored at both locations, and so that the remote user can access an updated database," (lines 17-23 of column 3 in Mendez). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to include a database for storing original computer data; and synch application connected to said database in the system as taught by Varma.

b. As per claim 2, Varma teaches: pointer icon data, wherein synchronization data further comprises pointer icon data...(line 61 of column 2 through line 1 of column 3).

c. As per claim 3, Varma teaches: synch application is further adapted to provide said synchronization data... (line 61 of column 2 through line 1 of column 3).

d. As per claim 4, Varma teaches: synch application is further adapted to provide said plurality of reception devices... (lines 10-14 of column 2 and lines 51-58 of column 3).

e. As per claim 5, Varma teaches: synch application is further adapted to receive annotated data... (lines 48-60 of column 5).

f. As per claims 6 Varma teaches: annotated data is selected from a group of annotated data consisting of... (lines 43-44 of column 1).

g. As per claim 7, Varma teaches: synch application is further adapted to provide said controlling one... (lines 44-48 of column 9).

h. As per claim 8, Varma teaches: synch application is further adapted to provide said annotated data... (line 58 of column 7 through line 2 of column 8).

i. As per claim 11, Varma teaches: synch application is further adapted to provide additional annotated data... (lines 20-35 of column 6).

j. As per claim 14, Varma teaches: synch application is further adapted to receive communication data... (lines 61-67 of column 5).

k. As per claims 15 Varma teaches: annotated data is selected from a group of annotated data consisting of... (lines 43-44 of column 1).

l. As per claim 16, Varma teaches: synch application is further adapted to provide said communication data... (Abstract).

m. As per claim 20, Varma teaches: synch application further comprises a locking application... (line 49 of column 7 through line 35 of column 8).

n. As per claim 21, Varma teaches: locking application is further adapted to perform... (line 49 of column 7 through line 35 of column 8).

o. As per claim 22, Varma teaches: said annotated parameters include... (line 49 of column 7 through line 35 of column 8).

8. Claims 9-10 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Varma and Mendez as applied to claim 8, in view of Papierniak et al. (U.S. 6,317,794 B1) hereinafter referred to as Papierniak and Samar (U.S. 6,563,514 B1).

a. As per claim 9, Varma and Mendez fail to teach: synch application further comprises a language translation application... However, Papierniak discloses: "The web synchronizer receives view A which is text in step S30. View A can be received, for example, as text, and either stored as text and translated when requested, or translated immediately into views and then stored," (lines 31-35 of column 9).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have the synch application further comprise a language translation application... "The present invention manages relationships among electronic merchants, their customers/buyers and partners to allow different types of information be presented to different people based on their business functions, need to know requirements, business operation status, and personal preferences," (lines 37-45 of column 2 in Papierniak). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have the synch application further comprise a

language translation application adapted to translate said annotated data into at least one other language in the system as taught by Varma and Mendez.

b. As per claim 10, Varma and Mendez fail to teach: said language translation application is further adapted... However, Samar discloses: "Other options might have allowed for a spelling check of the word, common examples of usage of the word, translation of the word into another language, synonyms of the word, antonyms for the word, abbreviations for the word, a thesaurus, punctuation, or even an audio pronunciation of the word," (lines 33-38 of column 6).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have said language translation application further adapted... "This would allow information to be retrieved on grammar checking, possible other equivalent phrases, or even common abbreviations," (lines 42-44 of column 6 in Samar). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have said language translation application further adapted to provide thesaurus information to said controlling one of said plurality of reception devices in the system as taught by Varma and Mendez.

9. Claim 12 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Varma and Mendez as applied to claim 8, in view of Agraharam et al. (U.S. 6,377,995 B2) hereinafter referred to as Agraharam.

As per claim 12, Varma and Mendez teach: annotated data and correspondence data linking said annotated data to said portion of said original computer data is stored in said database (lines 49-57 of column 7).

Varma and Mendez fails to teach: data stored in database such that said annotated data and said portion of said original computer data can by replayed at a later time. However, Agraharam discloses: "an individual can replay selected portions of the multimedia conference call corresponding to a set time period. The time stamp information is stored in the database 23 along with the multimedia communications," (lines 32-36 of column 4).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time for the applicant's invention to have data stored in a database such that it could be replayed at a later time. "The database is used to store indexed multimedia communications for subsequent playback, and to store certain information related to the sources and to the participants in the multimedia communications," (lines 20-23 of column 4 in Agraharam). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to have data stored in a database such that it could be replayed at a later time in the system as taught by Varma and Mendez.

10. Claim 13 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Varma and Mendez in view of Agraharam as applied to claim 12, and further in view of Papierniak.

As per claim 13, Varma and Mendez fail to teach: synch application further comprises a language translation application...

However, Papierniak discloses: "The web synchronizer receives view A which is text in step S30. View A can be received, for example, as text, and either stored as text and translated when requested, or translated immediately into views and then stored," (lines 31-35 of column 9).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have the synch application further comprise a language translation application... "The present invention manages relationships among electronic merchants, their customers/buyers and partners to allow different types of information be presented to different people based on their business functions, need to know requirements, business operation status, and personal preferences," (lines 37-45 of column 2 in Papierniak). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have the synch application further comprise a language translation application adapted to translate said annotated data into at least one other language in the system as taught by Varma and Mendez.

11. Claim 17 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Varma and Mendez as applied to claim 16, in view of Papierniak.

As per claim 17, Varma and Mendez fail to teach: synch application further comprises a language translation application... However, Papierniak discloses: "The web synchronizer receives view A which is text in step S30. View A can be received, for example, as text, and either stored as text and translated when requested, or translated immediately into views and then stored," (lines 31-35 of column 9).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have the synch application further comprise a language translation application... "The present invention manages relationships among electronic merchants, their customers/buyers and partners to allow different types of information be presented to different people based on their business functions, need to know requirements, business operation status, and personal preferences," (lines 37-45 of column 2 in Papierniak). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have the synch application further comprise a language translation application adapted to translate said annotated data into at least one other language in the system as taught by Varma and Mendez.

12. Claim 18 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Varma and Mendez as applied to claim 14, in view of Agraharam et al. (U.S. 6,377,995 B2) hereinafter referred to as Agraharam.

As per claim 18, Varma and Mendez teach: annotated data and correspondence data linking said annotated data to said portion of said original computer data is stored in said database (lines 49-57 of column 7).

Varma and Mendez do not teach: data stored in database such that said annotated data and said portion of said original computer data can by replayed at a later time. However, Agraharam discloses: "an individual can replay selected portions of the multimedia conference call corresponding to a set time period. The time stamp information is stored in the database 23 along with the multimedia communications," (lines 32-36 of column 4).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time fo the applicant's invention to have data stored in a database such that it could be replayed at a later time. "The database is used to store indexed multimedia communications for subsequent playback, and to store certain information related to the sources and to the participants in the multimedia communications," (lines 20-23 of column 4 in Agraharam). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to have data stored in a database such that it could be replayed at a later time in the system as taught by Varma and Mendez.

13. Claim 19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Varma and Mendez in view of Agraharam as applied to claim 18, and further in view of Papierniak.

As per claim 19, Varma and Mendez fail to teach: synch application further comprises a language translation application…

However, Papierniak discloses: "The web synchronizer receives view A which is text in step S30. View A can be received, for example, as text, and either stored as text and translated when requested, or translated immediately into views and then stored," (lines 31-35 of column 9).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have the synch application further comprise a language translation application… "The present invention manages relationships among electronic merchants, their customers/buyers and partners to allow different types of information be presented to different people based on their

business functions, need to know requirements, business operation status, and personal preferences," (lines 37-45 of column 2 in Papierniak). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have the synch application further comprise a language translation application adapted to translate said annotated data into at least one other language in the system as taught by Varma and Mendez.

14. Claims 33 and 34 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Varma as applied to claim 32, in view of Papierniak.

a. As per claim 33, Varma fails to teach: the step of translating said annotated data... However, Papierniak discloses: "The web synchronizer receives view A which is text in step S30. View A can be received, for example, as text, and either stored as text and translated when requested, or translated immediately into views and then stored," (lines 31-35 of column 9).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have the step of translating said annotated data... "The present invention manages relationships among electronic merchants, their customers/buyers and partners to allow different types of information be presented to different people based on their business functions, need to know requirements, business operation status, and personal preferences," (lines 37-45 of column 2 in Papierniak). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have the step of translating said annotated data into at least one other language before

said annotated data is provided to said at least one other one of said plurality of reception devices in the system as taught by Varma.

b. As per claim 34, Varma teaches: step of providing said annotated data further comprises providing additional annotated data... (lines 20-35 of column 6).

15. Claim 35 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Varma as applied to claim 29, in view of Agraharam.

As per claim 35, Varma teaches: step of storing said annotated data and correspondence data linking said annotated data to said portion of original computer data (lines 49-57 of column 7).

Varma fails to teach: ...such that said annotated data and said portion of said original computer data can by replayed at a later time. However, Agraharam discloses: "an individual can replay selected portions of the multimedia conference call corresponding to a set time period. The time stamp information is stored in the database 23 along with the multimedia communications," (lines 32-36 of column 4).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time for the applicant's invention to have said annotated data and said portion of said original computer data available for replay at a later time. "The database is used to store indexed multimedia communications for subsequent playback, and to store certain information related to the sources and to the participants in the multimedia communications," (lines 20-23 of column 4 in Agraharam). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to have

said annotated data and said portion of said original computer data available for replay at a later time in the system as taught by Varma.

16. Claim 36 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Varma as applied to claim 29, in view of Papierniak.

As per claim 36, Varma fails to teach: step of translating said annotated data into at least one other language...

However, Papierniak discloses: "The web synchronizer receives view A which is text in step S30. View A can be received, for example, as text, and either stored as text and translated when requested, or translated immediately into views and then stored," (lines 31-35 of column 9).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have the step of translating said annotated data into at least one other language... "The present invention manages relationships among electronic merchants, their customers/buyers and partners to allow different types of information be presented to different people based on their business functions, need to know requirements, business operation status, and personal preferences," (lines 37-45 of column 2 in Papierniak). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have the step of translating said annotated data into at least one other language at approximately the same time said annotated data and said portion of original computer data are replayed in the system as taught by Varma.

17. Claim 40 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Varma as applied to claim 37, in view of Agraharam.

As per claim 40, Varma teaches: step of storing said communication data and correspondence data linking said communication data to said portion of original computer data (lines 49-57 of column 7).

Varma do not teach: said annotated data and said portion of said original computer data can by replayed at a later time. However, Agraharam discloses: "an individual can replay selected portions of the multimedia conference call corresponding to a set time period. The time stamp information is stored in the database 23 along with the multimedia communications," (lines 32-36 of column 4).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time for the applicant's invention to have data stored such that it could be replayed at a later time. "The database is used to store indexed multimedia communications for subsequent playback, and to store certain information related to the sources and to the participants in the multimedia communications," (lines 20-23 of column 4 in Agraharam). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to have data stored such that it could be replayed at a later time in the system as taught by Varma.

18. Claims 41-42 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Varma as applied to claim 23, in view of Logston et al. (U.S. 5,481,542) hereinafter referred to as Logston.

a. As per claim 41, Varma teaches: step of receiving synchronization data further comprises receiving supplemental communication data from at least one of said plurality of reception device (lines 49-57 of column 7).

Varma does not teach: said supplemental communication data is transmitted via a transmission protocol that is different from the TCP/IP Internet protocol used to transmit data over the Internet. However, Logston discloses: "The interface between SP 20 and the headend 112 for transporting digital data in accordance with the invention preferably utilizes a UNI-directional, synchronous Optical Network (UNISON-1)," (lines 42-45 of column 15).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have the supplemental data transit over a protocol different from TCP/IP. "It preferably utilizes a UNI-directional, Synchronous Optical Network (UNISON-1) interface which has physical layer characteristics as well as an underlying network transport structure modeled after the known Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) transport," (lines 44-48 of column 15 in Logston). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have the supplemental data transmit over a protocol different from TCP/IP in the system as taught by Varma.

b. As per claim 42, Varma teaches: step of providing said original computer data further comprises providing... (lines 20-29 of column 6).

19. Claim 43 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Varma in view of Logston, as applied to claim 41, further in view of Agraharam.

As per claim 43, Varma teaches: step of storing said supplemental communication data and correspondence data linking said supplemental communication data to said original computer data (lines 49-57 of column 7).

Varma do not teach: said supplemental communication data and said portion of said original computer data can by replayed at a later time. However, Agraharam discloses: "an individual can replay selected portions of the multimedia conference call corresponding to a set time period. The time stamp information is stored in the database 23 along with the multimedia communications," (lines 32-36 of column 4).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time for the applicant's invention to have data stored such that it could be replayed at a later time. "The database is used to store indexed multimedia communications for subsequent playback, and to store certain information related to the sources and to the participants in the multimedia communications," (lines 20-23 of column 4 in Agraharam). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to have data stored such that it could be replayed at a later time in the system as taught by Varma.

Conclusion

20. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lin et al. (U.S. 5,742,599) discloses a method and system for supporting constant bit rate encoded MPEG-2 transport over local ATM networks.

Kar et al. (U.S. 5,761,439) discloses a method and apparatus for synchronizing communications between networked computers.

Rothrock (U.S. 5,764,902) discloses conditional insert or merge in a data conference.

Vrvilo et al. (U.S. 5,794,018) discloses a system and method for synchronizing data streams.

Tafoya et al (U.S. 5,822,525) discloses a method and system for presentation conferencing.

Kurachi et al. (U.S. 6,092,035) discloses a server device for multilingual transmission system.

Craig (U.S. 6,108,687) discloses a system and method for providing a synchronized display to a plurality of computers over a global computer network.

Shin (U.S. 6,182,150 B1) discloses a computer conferencing system with a transmission signal synchronization scheme.

Nitta et al. (U.S. 6,377,976 B1) discloses destination inconsistency judgment apparatus, method, and system and destination inconsistency correction apparatus, method, and system.

Huang et al. (U.S. 6,571,245 B2) discloses a virtual desktop in a computer network.

Ozzie et al. (U.S. 6,640,241 B1) discloses a method and apparatus for activity-based collaboration by a computer system equipped with a communications manager.

Craig (U.S. 6,654,785 B1) discloses a system for providing a synchronized display of information slides on a plurality of computer workstations over a computer network.

Zoarez et al. (U.S. PG Pub 2002/0091509 A1) discloses a method and system for translating text.

Ait-Mokhtar et al. (U.S. PG Pub 2002/0116169 A1) discloses a method and apparatus for generating normalized representations of strings.

Teasley et al. ("Rapid Software Development through Team Collocation") discloses software development and some whiteboard information.

Munson et al. ("A Concurrency Control Framework for Collaborative Systems") discloses whiteboards and database concurrency schemes,

Wilcox et al. ("Dynomite : A Dynamically Organized Ink and Audio Notebook") discloses a notebook for merging handwritten and audio notes.

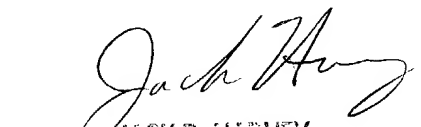
21. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Meucci at (703) 305-1382, or at (571) 272-3899 after October 12th, 2004. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Harvey, can be reached at (703) 305-9705, or at (571) 272-3896 after October 12th, 2004. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-5358.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [michael.meucci@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



JACK B. HARVEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER